

**DOCKET NO.: SA-517
EXHIBIT NO. 2X**

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**KAL LETTER TO ROBERT FRANCIS
DATED MARCH 26, 1998
(2 Pages)**

March 26, 1998

Robert T. Francis, Esq.
Chairman
NTSB Board of Inquiry

Dear Mr. Francis,

I am writing to you to request the deletion from the official record of the statement made by Captain P.W. Park after the completion of his evidence.

I make this request as the official spokesperson of and on behalf of KAL for the following reasons.

1. Captain Park's statement was not made on behalf of, or with the authority of KAL but was personal in nature, and made in accordance with the Korean custom to express condolences on public occasions to those affected by an accident. It is, however, likely to be misinterpreted by those reviewing it from a different cultural background as forming a statement of the official position of KAL.
2. The statement could suggest a finding by KAL of management deficiencies having been ascertained as a result of internal review. There has been no such finding or review and KAL believes that their management structure; which has been extensively discussed at the public hearing; is competent to perform its functions.

Your investigators would, of course, have been aware of any internal review of management; and our witnesses would have had to refer to it; and its findings in their testimony in response to the questions put to them as to post accident measures taken by KAL. The statement is therefore contradictory to the answers given by KAL witnesses, is not based on any factual support, and could wrongly suggest that the record of testimony is incomplete.

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March 26, 1998

Robert T. Francis, Esq.

Page 2

3. You have yourself emphasized the purposes of the hearing as being fact-finding, to develop a record of testimony designed to prevent similar accidents in the future. The statement of Captain Park does not fall within the ambit of these purposes, since it is not factual nor based on any review by KAL of its management structure. Indeed the statement has the potential positively to mislead, is immaterial and irrelevant to the purpose of the hearing.

For all these reasons, I would request you to delete the statement from the official record. Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

S. R. Kim
Captain
Korean Air

Handwritten signature of S. R. Kim in black ink, consisting of the letters 'K', 'M', and 'SR' in a stylized, cursive script.

(2)